

(b) selecting a currency from a menu in which to obtain price information;

(c) selecting a product to be purchased and a destination for shipping such product to be purchased;

(d) accessing at least one local or remote database for obtaining

- (i) price information for the product to be purchased; and
- (ii) a product code for an international goods classification system pertinent to such product; and
- (iii) international shipping information related to an origination point of such product and said destination;

(e) calculating costs involved in moving such product to said destination based upon said destination and such product;

(f) determining a total cost of the transaction that includes a price of the product;

(g) receiving an order for such product thereby triggering an electronic process for confirming existence of available funds; and

(h) upon confirmation of availability of said funds, accepting said order, generating an electronic record, such record including the content of a commercial invoice, to facilitate passage of such product to said destination.

22. The process of claim 21, comprising, prior to determining a language, carrying out a preliminary process of verifying information for a customer accessing a computer system for carrying out the process via the Internet.

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23. The process of claim 21, wherein determining the currency includes using customer information to select the currency; and further comprising determining an exchange rate based upon the determined currency and a predetermined exchange medium.

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24. The process of claim 21, further comprising: determining whether the product to be purchased in fact involves an international transaction.

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25. The process of claim 24, wherein calculating costs involved in moving such product further includes determining at least one shipping route and calculating associated costs for selection by the customer.

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26. The process of claim 23, wherein receiving a selection of a product and calculating costs involved in moving such product further includes calculating any applicable taxes, import duties, and export duties based upon a selected shipping route selected by the customer.

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27. The process of claim 21, further comprising arranging for shipment of the product along a shipping route selected by the customer.

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28. The process of claim 27, further comprising correlating movement of the electronic record with movement of such product along the selected shipping route.

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29. The process of claim 28, further comprising generating documents from the electronic record when appropriate along the selected shipping route.

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30. The process of claim 29, wherein generating documents includes authorizing electronic payment of expenses required along the selected shipping route.

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31. The process of claim 21, further comprising storing and analyzing data based upon each customer accessing the system to develop a purchasing profile for each customer.

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32. The process of claim 31, further comprising using a customer's purchasing profile to select a candidate product to be presented to the customer.

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33. A system for carrying out an international commercial transaction over a network of computers, the system comprising:

means for running a transaction program so as to integrate components including:

(a) means for determining a language in which to view catalogue information on products;

(b) means for determining a currency in which to obtain price information;

(c) means for receiving a selection of a product to be purchased and a destination for shipping such product to be purchased;

(d) means for accessing at least one local or remote database for  
(i) price information for the product to be purchased; and  
(ii) a product code for an international goods classification system pertinent to  
such product; and

(iii) international shipping information related to an origination point of such  
product and said destination;

(e) means for calculating costs involved in moving such product to said destination based  
upon said destination and such product;

(f) means for receiving an order for such product thereby triggering an electronic process  
for confirming existence of available funds; and

(g) upon confirmation of availability of said funds, means for generating an electronic  
record, such record including the content of a commercial invoice, to facilitate passage of such  
product to said destination.

34. The system of claim 33, further comprising means for authorizing electronic payment of  
expenses required along a selected shipping route.

35. The system of claim 33, wherein the at least one database stores customer data, financial  
data, goods available for transaction, routing information for goods subject to transaction costs  
for shipping goods, costs for handling goods at transfer points, and costs of duties and taxes.